

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Joint Scrutiny Committee

held on Tuesday 10 September 2019 at 6.30 pm

at the Meeting Room 1, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton OX14 4SB

Open to the public, including the press

Present:

Members:

South Oxfordshire District Councillors: Sam Casey-Rerhaye, Stefan Gawrysiak, Alexandrine Kantor, George Levy and Jane Murphy (in place of Ian White)

Vale of White Horse District Councillors: Nathan Boyd, Andy Cooke, Hayleigh Gascoigne and David Grant

Officers:

Dylan Evans, Liz Hayden, Ian Matten, Adrianna Partridge, Donna Pentelow, Ron Schrieber and Ben Whaymand

Also present:

South Councillors Maggie Filipova-Rivers and David Rouane. Vale Councillors Jenny Hannaby and Helen Pighills

Pete Dickson, Debbie Doohan and Francis Drew, Biffa; John Amatt, Jamie Coleshill and Kevin Williams, GLL

Sc.7 Apologies for absence

South Councillor Ian White (substituted by Jane Murphy), and Vale Councillor Amos Duveen submitted apologies.

Sc.8 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

Sc.9 Declarations of interest

None.

Sc.10 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

None.

Sc.11 Public participation

None.

Sc.12 Performance review of Biffa Municipal Plc - 2018

The committee considered the report of the head of housing and environment, which assessed Biffa Municipal Limited's performance in delivering the household waste collection, street cleansing and ancillary services contract for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018.

The report recommended that the contractor be awarded an overall rating of "Fair".

South Councillor David Rouane, Cabinet member for housing and environment, introduced the report. Also present to answer questions were Vale Councillor Jenny Hannaby, Cabinet member for environmental and technical services, Liz Hayden, Head of Housing and Environment, Ian Matten, Environmental Services Manager and Pete Dickson, Debbie Doohan and Francis Drew, Biffa.

The report stated that the operational problems experienced in 2017, caused by the ageing fleet, continued to impact on the first six months of this review period resulting in the end of year Key Performance Targets (KPTs) being lower than would be expected from one of the councils' contractors. While there was an improvement in eight out of the ten KPTs, compared with the previous review, it was not enough to change the overall classification.

There had been a significant improvement in performance in the first six months of 2019. With the exception of missed bins and levels of detritus, all targets were being met or exceeded and officers were confident that Biffa's overall performance would be in a higher classification for 2019.

In response to members' questions, the committee was informed that:

- With regard to KPT1, missed collections, a missed bin had to be reported within 24 hours in order for it to be recorded and rectified. It was vital, therefore, for residents to report any missed bins within this time frame.
- The levels of litter and detritus (KPT 4) were assessed by independent inspectors.
- With regard to KPT8, deliveries – replacement bins, the bin stock was relatively old but the number requiring replacement was not high when compared with other local authorities.
- The personal digital assistant (pda) used by crews identified missed bins.
- The need for improved communication to help ensure residents were aware of what should/should not go in each bin was recognised.

RESOLVED: to support the assessment of Biffa's overall performance of the household waste collection, street cleansing and ancillary services contract in 2018 as "Fair".

Sc.13 2018/19 performance review of Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL)

The committee considered the report of the head of community services which assessed Greenwich Leisure Limited's (GLL) performance in delivering the joint leisure management contract for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

The report recommended that the contractor be awarded an overall rating of "Excellent".

Helen Pighills, Vale Cabinet member for community services introduced the report. Also present to answer questions were South Councillor Maggie Filipova-Rivers, Cabinet member for community services, Donna Pentelow, Head of Community Services, Dylan Evans, Active Communities Manager, Ben Whaymand, Leisure Facilities Team Leader, and John Amatt, Jamie Coleshill and Kevin Williams Hercus, GLL.

In response to members' questions, the committee was informed that:

- With regard to Key Performance Targets (KPTs) 11,12 and 13, GLL was constantly working to reduce energy usage.
- Although there was no KPT regarding community participation, GLL was committed to working in partnership with the council to deliver a programme of community activities.
- Gender neutral changing areas were provided where appropriate and as part of planned refurbishment works.
- The accuracy of the percentages set out in Annex F – client monitoring scores, would be reviewed.

GLL and officers agreed to explore a member's suggestion to explore measures to reduce car usage as a first means of transport to leisure centres and encourage customers to walk, cycle or use public transport.

The committee congratulated GLL and officers on the contractor's excellent performance in 2018/19.

RESOLVED: to support the assessment of GLL's overall performance of the leisure management contract in 2018/19 as "Excellent."

Sc.14 Work schedule and dates for all South and Vale scrutiny meetings

The committee noted its work programme.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm